

REMARKS

The dependency of Claims 6 and 22 has been amended, and formal changes have been made to Claims 1, 7, 11, 17, 23 and 24. Claims 2, 4-6, 12, 14, 15, 18, 20-22, 29 and 30 are directed to non-elected Species.

Applicant has the following observations.

Figs. 1-3 (First Species) are illustrations of a concept common to the various Species, and show that photo-electric charges accumulated in a photodiode 105 for the same and one unit accumulation period are divided into a plurality of groups and read out through output means (transfer gate 102, floating diffusion region 103, reset switch Q2, amplification transistor Q3), selection switch Q4 turns ON in every readout, and the obtained signals are divided and outputted (as T3 and T7 of Fig. 2) to a readout circuit connected to the selection switch. Fig. 15 illustrating the reset voltage applied at the time of the above driving also shows the common concept.

Figs. 4 and 5, and the Second to Sixth Species, provide examples of the readout circuit of the output means forwards. The Seventh Species is an example of a developed pixel structure.

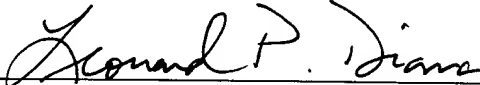
Fig. 13 illustrates an image pickup system using an image pickup device according to any of the various Species, while Fig. 12 shows a particular Species. In this regard, Applicant believes that the definition of the Species in the Office Action should be redrawn.

Fig. 15 relates to Claim 5, 6, 15, 21 and 22.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant
Leonard P. Diana
Registration No.: 29,296

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

NY_MAIN 405830v1